

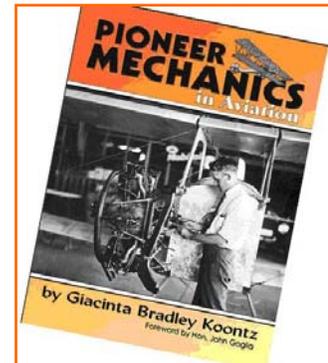


New Book about Pre-WWII Aircraft Mechanics

Pioneer Mechanics in Aviation, by Giacinta Bradley Koontz

Aurora, Colorado - March 1 - we'll finally have a book devoted exclusively to the heretofore anonymous American mechanics of early aviation. That's when Giacinta Bradley Koontz releases her latest book, Pioneer Mechanics in Aviation, which chronicles the exploits of airplane mechanics up to the start of World War II.

Each of the book's 24 chapters tells of the fascinating stories of the men and women (yes, women!) who kept Wright Flyers, Blériots, Curtiss Pushers, and other wood-and-fabric aircraft flying. Beginning with the Wright brothers' mechanic, Charles Taylor, Koontz reveals the life stories and contributions of these unsung heroes of aviation.



"This book captured my interest because it includes women pilots, like Katherine Stinson and Willa Brown, who were also good mechanics," says Sue Hughes, owner of Powder Puff Pilot, a Denver-based web retailer that specializes in gear and accessories for women pilots. "Men have always outnumbered women pilots, but before World War II, a woman who knew how to use a wrench was especially rare." Powder Puff Pilot retails the new release, along with many other books and DVDs by and about women pilots.

Koontz has written aviation history columns for several aviation magazines since 2006. Although neither a pilot nor a mechanic, one of her editors wrote, "Her passion is aviation history and her gift is writing." Koontz's scholarly contributions to preserving aviation history have been recognized by the Daughters of the American Revolution and professional maintenance technician associations, among others. Her first book was a biography of America's first female licensed pilot, Harriet Quimby.

Pioneer Mechanics in Aviation

Softcover, 150pp. Dozens of vintage photographs and illustrations; references; an index of aircraft, engines, and people. Foreword by former NTSB Board Member, Hon. John Goglia. Price: \$34.95. Now available for purchase at www.PowderPuffPilot.com.

Powder Puff Pilot

Powder Puff Pilot was founded in November 2008 by Sue Hughes of Aurora, Colorado. Its gear and accessories designed to support and recruit women pilots are sold online and at over 60 retailers, including aviation museums, pilot shops, and bookstores. For more information or to order Powder Puff Pilot products, visit www.PowderPuffPilot.com or call toll free: 888-801-6628.

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